

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 02334 091922Z  
ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 ACDA-07 SS-15 PM-04 SP-02  
L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05  
FEAE-00 DODE-00 ERDA-05 TRSE-00 /100 W  
-----091928Z 113869 /53

P 091737Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 486  
INFO AMEMBASSY BERN  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 2334

E.O.11652: GDS  
TAGS: ENRG UK  
SUBJECT: TRANSFER OF IRRADIATED FUEL ELEMENTS FOR  
REPROCESSING

REF: STATE 11339, MADRID 437, LONDON 902, LONDON 502

1. LETTER FROM MICHAEL J. WILMSHURST, JOINT NUCLEAR  
SECTION, ENERGY DEPARTMENT, FCO, PROVIDES HMG COMMENTS  
ON SIEVERING LETTERS TO SPAAK ON TRANSFER TO THE UK OF  
SPANIS AND JAPANESE FUEL. AS NOTED IN HIS LETTER  
WILMSHURST WOULD APPRECIATE ADVICE AS TO WHETHER  
WASHINGTON AGENCIES SHARE HMG'S UNDERSTANDING  
OF TWO POINTS MADE IN SIEVERING LETTER.

2. TEXT OF LETTER TO EMBASSY ENERGY ATTACHE FROM  
WILMSHURST FOLLOWS:

"REPROCESSING OF US FUEL

"ON 6 JANUARY YOU LEFT WITH ME COPIES OF LETTERS WHICH  
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MR. SIEVERING, THE ASSISTAND ADMINISTRATOR FOR INTER-  
NATIONAL AFFAIRS OF ERCA, WROTE TO MR. SPAAK, HEAD OF  
THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION OFFICE IN WASHINGTON, ON 30  
DECEMBER GIVING APPROVAL FOR THE TRANSFER TO THE UK  
FROM SPAIN AND JAPAN OF IRRADIATED FUEL FOR REPROCESSING.

" WE HAVE CONSIDERED THE TERMS OF MR. SIEVERING'S LETTER

VERY CAREFULLY AND HAVE DISCUSSED IT WITH FRENCH OFFICIALS, AS MR. SIEVERING WROTE SIMILARLY ON THE SAME DATE ABOUT THE TRANSFER OF IRRADIATED FUEL FROM SWITZERLAND TO FRANCE. THERE ARE TWO POINTS IN THE LETTER ON WHICH WE THOUGHT IT DESIRABLE TO CONFIRM OUR UNDERSTANDING; IF IT SEEMED DESIRABLE WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THEM WITH APPROPRIATE US OFFICIALS, TOGETHER WITH APPROPRIATE FRENCH OFFICIALS.

"THE FIRST POINT CONCERNS THE CONDITION THAT ERDA SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO APPROVE ALL USE OR TRANSFER OF RECOVERED SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE US GOVERNMENT WISHES TO BE CONSULTED THROUGH NORMAL MB10 PROCEDURE ABOUT ANY TRANSFER TO A NON-NUCLEAR-WEAPON STATE, BUT WE DO NOT CONSIDER THAT IT WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH THE NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS GUIDELINES FOR PRIOR APPROVAL FOR USE IN THE UK (OR FRANCE) TO BE REQUIRED.

"SECONDLY WE UNDERSTAND THE FINAL PARAGRAPH OF THE LETTER TO MEAN THAT THERE WOULD BE NO QUESTION OF THE US GOVERNMENT WITHDRAWING AT A FUTURE DATE APPROVAL FOR REPROCESSING WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN GIVEN.

"PERHAPS YOU WOULD LET ME KNOW IF OUR UNDERSTANDING ON THESE POINTS IS SHARED IN WASHINGTON."  
ARMSTRONG

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NUCLEAR FUELS, FISSIONABLE MATERIALS TRANSFER  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 09-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 11339, 77 MADRID 437, 77 LONDON 902, 77 LONDON 502  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3366929  
**Secure:** OPEN  
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**Subject:** TRANSFER OF IRRADIATED FUEL ELEMENTS FOR REPROCESSING  
**TAGS:** ENRG, UK, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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